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Exhibitions

Mirosław Balka

▶ Two acclaimed Polish artists are put under the spotlight. One is Mirosław Balka, the creator of the current Tate Turbine Hall commission, the huge shipping container-sized steel box that contains nothing but blackness inside. Over the past decade or so Balka has been creating small, compelling and typically concise video works, producing a sort of diary of pictures and ideas. These pieces, entitled *Topography*, are now presented at **Modern Art Oxford** as a multi-dimensional installation, consisting of sound and image and special movements. The visitor can expect the sort of disquieting experience that Balka's work typically arouses.

Meanwhile, Paweł Althamer presents *Common Task* (pictured above), a work that blurs the boundaries between science fiction and real life. Accompanied by people from his local community, he has embarked on a continuing journey that has led him from Warsaw to Brazil, Belgium and Africa. Oxford becomes a stopping point in this trip as the ground floor of the gallery is transformed into a space station in which memories of this collective mission can be shared. Step into the shuttle and you, too, can become part of this common task.

Rachel Campbell-Johnston

Modern Art Oxford (modernartoxford.co.uk 01865 722733), until March 7, free

Like this? Visit Tate Modern to see **Mirosław Balka's box of darkness** in the Turbine Hall



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